

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08410 201601Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05
SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
OMB-01 /095 W
-----130926 210118Z /20

R 201551Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0955
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 08410

USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, CH, ETRD
SUBJ: EC/PRC TRADE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

REF: PEKING 1451 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION OFFICER MET JULY 19 WITH EC COMMISSION
OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR RELATIONS WITH STATE-TRADING
COUNTRIES (FOUERE) TO REVIEW RESULTS OF EC COMMISSION
DELEGATION DISCUSSIONS WITH PRC OFFICIALS IN PEKING.
FOUERE'S DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS OF THE DE KERGORLAY
MISSION TALLIED IN ALL RESPECTS WITH ACCOUNT PROVIDED
BY USLO (REFTEL), BUT HE ALSO ADDED SEVERAL POINTS
WHICH MISSION BELIEVES WORTH HIGHLIGHTING.

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08410 201601Z

2. FROM THE COMMISSION'S POINT OF VIEW, THE PEKING
TALKS REPRESENTED THE END OF THE EXPLORATORY PHASE OF
TALKS. FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS CAN BEGIN AS SOON AS THE
COMMISSION HAS REPORTED TO THE EC COUNCIL AND OBTAINED
A NEGOTIATING MANDATE. FOUERE SAID NEGOTIATIONS COULD
OPEN IN NOVEMBER (ALTHOUGH THE PRC WOULD CLEARLY PREFER
AN EARLIER DATE) AND CONCLUDE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

3. FOUERE SAID THE CHINESE SIDE, DURING THE PEKING TALKS, WAS HEADED BY CHENG-TO-PIN, DIRECTOR OF THE THIRD DEPARTMENT AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE. FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER LI CHIANG APPEARED ONLY AT THE LAST SESSION. IN ADDITION TO COMMENTS CONCERNING "GANG OF FOUR" (PARA 2 REFTTEL), LI'S REMARKS EMPHASIZED PRC HOPE FOR CLOSE TIES WITH THE EC. ALLUDING TO PRC SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY "SINCE ITS CREATION," LI EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED "BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR" (ECHOING A REFRAIN THAT COMMISSION OFFICIALS HEARD THROUGHOUT THEIR STAY).

4. FOUERE ALSO EXPANDED SOMEWHAT ON THE CHINESE REQUEST (PARA 4 REFTTEL) THAT THE PRC BE REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES SUBJECT TO EC QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS AND THAT THE PRC BE GRANTED GATT LIBERALIZATIONS. FOUERE SAID THAT WHILE THE SECOND REQUEST WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION, THE COMMISSION MIGHT EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR CREATING A SPECIAL CATEGORY, INCLUDING ONLY THE PRC, WHICH WOULD SATISFY CHINESE "POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS" BY TECHNICALLY SEGREGATING THE PRC FROM OTHER STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO EC TRADE TREATMENT.HINTON

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